

Sensor Installation Checklist



Environmental filters

Aspects of the experiment environment that will limit certain sensors from consideration

Minimum measurable temperature _____ K

Maximum measurable temperature _____ K

Maximum survivable temperature _____ K

Maximum magnetic field _____ T

Ionizing radiation

Maximum vacuum _____ Pa

Sensor ranking

Features allowing qualitative or quantitative methods to rank remaining sensor options

Accuracy _____ at _____
e.g., 10 mK at 4.2 K

Resolution — most easily intercomparable with dimensionless sensitivity (S_D)

■ Packaging features:

Lead wires (insulation, bundling, material, strain-relief)

Size

Ease of mounting

Removable from installation?

Thermal response time

Sensor selection resources

[Sensor Selection Guide](#)

[Cryogenic Temperature Sensor Selection Guide](#)

[Cryogenic temperature sensor characteristics](#)

[Sorry, we have way too many resources available!](#)

Additional installation resources

[Sensor installation instructions](#)

[Experimental Techniques: Cryostat Design, Material Properties and Superconductor Critical-Current Testing](#) by Jack Ekin.

[Matter and Methods at Low Temperatures](#) by Frank Pobell.

[Experimental Techniques in Low-Temperature Physics \(Monographs on the Physics and Chemistry of Materials\)](#) by Guy K White.

[NIST Cryogenic Database](#)

Installation

Consider how each of these aspects of sensor installation may affect temperature measurement quality

■ Sensor placement

Close to temperature of interest location

Further away from heaters

■ Wiring considerations

Number of required sensor leads

Sensor wire type

Routing away from heater leads and AC signal lead

■ Thermal anchors

Anchors at each temperature stage for sensor wires

Type of anchor based on wire choice

Number of wraps if using bobbin

Thermal interface materials and securing methods

■ Sensor mounting (3 different styles)

Flat packages (e.g., SD, BC, BG packages)

Surface preparation

Thermal interface material/adhesive

Additional securing method

Wire insulation and strain relief

OR Insertion (e.g., AA, LR, platinum wire wound)

Hole diameter and depth

Thermal interface material/adhesive

Beware blind holes!

Wire thermal anchoring

OR Bolt down (e.g., CU, CD, BO, AL, AM, RS packages)

Mounting hole location, drilling, and tapping

Bolt selection

Thermal interface material

■ Optical radiation

Sensor should not be in view of surfaces at significantly different temperatures, use:

Baffles

Reflective tape

Super insulations